

EAST BAY LABOR JOURNAL

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CHRISTMAS MESSAGE from these Amalgamated Clothing Workers members to shoppers is: "Don't buy low-wage imports." Shown are a few of the hundreds of union members who marched at the San Francisco Grodins store to protest sale of imported men's clothing.

Biggest benefit boost in twelve years becomes law

California working people won their biggest increase in social insurance benefits in 12 years last week—a boost of more than \$81,000,000 a year—as two labor backed bills became law.

The measures are Assembly Bills 486, a workmen's compensation bill by Assemblyman Jack R. Fenton, and 1423 by Assemblyman David C. Pierson, a disability unemployment insurance benefits boost. Both authors are Los Angeles Democrats.

The bills, sponsored by the California Labor Federation, were signed by Governor Reagan at a ceremony attended by Labor Federation Secretary John F. Henning.

Henning noted that 300,000 persons would benefit directly and that the increased payments "will also help stimulate the state's economy since the funds will be immediately used

True to form

As usual, Governor Reagan this week vetoed three bills which would have raised pay for state employees. The victims were for a 5 per cent across the board raise—if the Legislature found the money—a 6 per cent pay raise for Highway Patrolmen and a 6 per cent raise for forest fire-fighters.

for goods and services . . ."

Henning praised Assembly Speaker Bob Moretti, Los Angeles Democrat, as the man who gave both bills and a Labor Federation bill signed earlier to boost jobless benefits to \$75 a week the necessary impetus for passage. He commended legislators of both parties and Reagan for their action.

AB 1423, the disability insurance measure for workers suffering non-job-connected injuries or illnesses, calls for an \$18 boost in the maximum weekly benefit, from \$87 to \$105.

This bill will be financed by increasing the \$7,400 taxable wage base to \$8,500 by 1973. It will result in a benefit increase estimated at \$18,400,000.

The new benefits will go to more than 166,000 workers, including more than 99,000 who will get the new maximum, state officials said.

AB 486, the greatest improvement in benefits since 1959, increases the workmen's compensation maximum weekly permanent disability benefit from \$52 to \$72, an improvement estimated to put about \$47,900,000 more a year into the hands of California's permanently disabled workers.

It also boosts the maximum

MORE on page 14

Dock talks resume; strike deadline near

West Coast longshore negotiations resumed this week against a deadline of next Sunday when 13,000 waterfront workers will again be free to strike.

Indications were that if talks between the Pacific Maritime

Association and the International Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union were still deadlocked, the dockers will strike.

Resumption of bargaining was agreed to Monday by ILWU and PMA spokesman after the union membership voted down an employer "last offer" by 10,072 to reject against only 746 to accept.

The vote was required under the Taft-Hartley Act. President Nixon invoked the T-H 80-day "cooling off" back-to-work provision effective October 6, and his 80-day injunction expires at midnight Christmas Day.

Joining the talks in San Francisco Tuesday was Nixon's mediation chief, J. Curtis Counts, who had intimated that Nixon may seek tough anti-strike action by Congress if the strike resumes.

Meanwhile, another 43,000 East and Gulf Coast members of the AFL-CIO International

MORE on page 14

Union stalls move for plastic pipe in San Leandro

Strong protests by Plumbers & Gas Fitters Local 444 members and officers resulted in a delay until next month in a move to approve use of plastic pipe in San Leandro.

Local 444 members living in San Leandro turned out in force at the city council meeting to back the union's opposition to the building code change, permitting plastic pipe use, Business Manager & Financial Secretary George A. Hess reported.

MORE on page 16

Price corps grows

Alameda County labor's volunteer corps against price gouging had grown to 27 persons, representing 19 unions, by Monday and was expected to increase in size before it starts its job of price monitoring to protect consumers.

Twenty of the price watchers are women unionists or women members of union families, and seven are men. The volunteers' price watching is to be so assigned that as far as possible they'll check prices while doing their own regular shopping.

The committee was set up by the Central Labor Council in the AFL-CIO's nationwide effort to ride herd on prices which rise despite the Nixon "freeze."

Its first meeting is set for 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, January 4, in the Fee Room of the Labor Temple, 2315 Valdez Street, Oakland.

Under Nixon "freeze" rules which rely on employers to control wages and on "voluntary" compliance by sellers to hold prices, first committee task will be to ascertain just what the

"frozen" prices are supposed to be.

That figure, said Labor Council Community Services Director Abe Newman, is the "ceiling" price which retailers are supposed to show to consumers when asked.

Once they know the "frozen" figures, volunteers will check actual prices against them on specially prepared price monitoring forms.

Each volunteer will be responsible initially for checking prices of 10 food, grocery or other consumer items out of a total of 100 on which the committee will keep watch.

Their results when, as expected, they show violations will be turned over to the Internal Revenue Service which is Nixon's choice for enforcement.

Council cancels meet

The Alameda County Central Labor Council will skip its meeting next Monday, December 27, for the Christmas holidays, but will meet as usual Monday, January 3.

from the EDITOR'S CHAIR

Keep Christmas green

Fellow said the other day, "So you want a cheerful subject to write about? Write about money."

"I," he said, "was working on a job up in the Oakland hills but I got laid off. It's finished."

"Merry Christmas," I said to him. "Anyway."

"I think I will write about

MORE on page 16

Price enforcer's 'enthusiasm' matched only by his indifference

If the reaction of one Internal Revenue Service agent to a price complaint is a tip-off, the IRS doesn't have much enthusiasm for its role of enforcing the price part of the Nixon wage-price "freeze."

The agent found excuses for a 50 to 60 per cent price rise which a Christmas shopper discovered on a toy set in a Contra Costa County store—which incidentally calls itself a "discount" house.

Millmen's Local 550 Finan-

cial Secretary Odus Howard looked through a shelf of toy auto race sets marked \$15.88 and noted that one of them was still priced on the back of the carton at \$9.88.

He adopted a firm stance and persuaded the shopkeeper to sell him that set at \$9.88.

Then he checked two other stores and found the same item priced at \$10.88 and \$9.97.

That convinced him that President Nixon's "freeze" wasn't freezing the Contra

Costa store's prices very hard, and he telephoned his complaint to IRS San Francisco office.

"That might be excusable," said the agent who took Howard's report. "I don't know if you really have a complaint because you've got to take into account any price increases by the manufacturer and the wholesaler before you know the retailer has violated the price freeze."

Howard, noting that the other stores he checked had not appeared to suffer from

manufacturers' or wholesalers' price rises, said he had a complaint and wanted to file one.

In that case, said the IRS price enforcer, he'd need the address of the store and the product number of the item.

The complainant gave him the name of the store and the street and town where it was located. Not having the toy in front of him, he didn't have the product number immediately.

The IRS man insisted on the street number of the

store, although it was the only one of its name in the town.

Howard hasn't given up. He planned to check the store's address in the telephone book and when he and his wife dug the race set out of a stack of Christmas gifts for wrapping this week, he was going to give it a fine tooth comb check for any and all numbers on it.

After that, said Howard, he planned to mail a written complaint—and wait and see what happens.

Prices are controlled -- upward

By SIDNEY MARGOLIUS

Purported price guidelines or not, your living costs are going to be higher this coming year. With food prices already beginning to rise, the likelihood is that the cost of living will go up even more than the 2½ per cent the Nixon administration is trying to set as the maximum rise.

As this is written, the Dun & Bradstreet wholesale food price index already has gone up four weeks in a row and is the highest since last August.

You did not get the full benefit of the drop in wholesale prices this past fall, and only exceptionally low prices for pork and eggs kept food bills fairly level in recent weeks.

But now supplies of pork and eggs are decreasing, and prices for these foods and many vegetables and fruits already are going up.

The other expense problems that will give your family most difficulty this year are housing, transportation and medical care. Moderate-income families will be hit hardest by this

year's continuing inflation. Food and housing usually take over half their income and these costs are going to be under great pressure this year.

RENT SQUEEZE: Rent increases loom as the most explosive problem. Before the recent freeze went into effect, rents had been going up at almost twice the rate of home-owner expenses.

Rents continued to rise even during the freeze. Now that rent "controls" have been replaced by "guidelines," many complaints of sharp increases have been made—some up to 30 per cent—according to the Internal Revenue Service.

To its credit, the IRS which administers the guidelines, has warned that landlords must keep records of their charges for comparable units, and must show these records to tenants and explain the reason for any increase.

Renters asked to pay increases that seem unjustified can make a complaint to the nearest IRS office.

At the same time families

hoping to get out of the rent trap by buying a home are facing a sharp increase in prices. The typical price of a new house jumped from \$23,000 last fall to \$25,000 now. This is the biggest one-year increase of the past decade.

Since it has become difficult to police food and other prices now that "controls" have been replaced by vague "guidelines" unions and other groups trying to maintain a price watch possibly can do this most usefully by collecting information on rent increases and reporting these to the IRS.

CARS: New cars will cost 2½-3 per cent more this year than during the recent three-month price freeze, but most of the domestic makes will cost less than last year because of repeal of the 7 per cent excise tax.

Note that beginning January 1, car dealers are required to give you data you can take home on stopping, distance, acceleration and passing ability, and tire reserve loads.

This information can help you compare these vital safety

features among different makes and models.

JANUARY SALES: Even with the price increases on the basic necessities of food and housing, there are many money-saving sales available in January. This is one of the biggest sale months of the year offering an opportunity to anticipate your needs.

Among the most useful sales are the January shoe sales, winter clothing clearances, including coats and men's suits and shirts, and January White sales.

January also is a good month to find sales of dishes and glassware, electric housewares and blankets, with the midwinter furniture and rug sales starting later this month.

You'll also find big price-cutting on TV sets, not only to clear out the Christmas remainders but because manufacturers had started to cut prices as much as \$30 and more even before.

FOOD BUYING CALENDAR: One of the reasons why price control hasn't got a chance is

the cutback in pork production by farmers.

While prices already are rising, some pork cuts are still relatively reasonable this month, especially sales of whole loins, roasts and whole hams. Buy the whole loin or ham, get a lower price and then save again by putting the rest in your freezer compartment against the coming higher pork prices.

Eggs are higher, too, but are still good relative value. Beef has been expensive this year. Among the few good values in main-dish foods still available this winter are broilers and turkeys, although turkeys have gone up, too.

Many people have been startled by the higher prices of fish, once considered a relatively inexpensive food.

Some varieties of frozen fish still are reasonable.

But in general fish is in short supply this year, and the fast growth of fish and chips restaurants has increased demand. The import surcharge also has raised prices of some fish imports.

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Federation names McKee, B. Arellano to board

Steelworkers District 38 Director Frank S. McKee and Business Manager Bennie Arellano of Ventura Laborers Local 585 were named California Labor Federation vice presidents by the Federation executive council, meeting in Los Angeles.

McKee replaces G. J. Conway of Los Angeles Steelworkers Local 3941, who resigned as vice president at large for health reasons.

Arellano succeeds Wilbur L. Filippini of Sheet Metal Workers Local 273 who resigned to become national administrator of the Sheet Metal & Air Conditioners Fund.

McKee, 49, whose district extends over 14 western states including Hawaii, is chairman of the Colorado Fuel & Iron National negotiations and also chairman of the Kaiser Steel negotiations in Fontana.

He served several terms as president of Steelworkers Local

1208 in Seattle before becoming a staff representative of the international union in 1960.

A decorated World War II Marine veteran, McKee, as director of District 38, is also chairman of the district's Legislative and Education Committee of the nine basic steel companies.

He was recently appointed a member of the White House Conference on Aging and is also on the Executive Board of the California Democratic State Central Committee.

Arellano, 47, an active member of Local 585 since 1948, has served as a delegate to the Southern California District Council of Laborers for the past 10 years and is also a delegate to the Ventura Building and Construction Trades Council.

He is a member of the Advisory Board of the Mexican-American Opportunity Foundation in Oxnard and is also a member of the Mexican-American Civic Organization of Santa Paula.

In 1966-67 he served as chairman of the Headstart Program of the Santa Paula Neighborhood Council. He is also a World War II veteran of service in the European theater and a member of VFW Post 2043 in Santa Paula.

Demo women to hear report on conference

Mrs. Frances Albrier, former president of the Democratic Women's Study Club, will report on the recent White House Conference on the Aging at the club's luncheon meeting Wednesday, January 5 at Tom Lovely's Buffet, 336 Grand Avenue, Oakland.

Yule joy for 36 families, thanks to Auto Salesmen

At least 36 poor families will get Christmas turkeys from Automobile Salesmen Local 1095 and the union is donating another 12 Yuletide birds to churches and missions.

The union asked the public to refer names of needy families to it. It is checking out additional names for Christmas dinners and also has donated clothing to neglected children at the Alameda County juvenile home. Executive Secretary Vincent Fulce reported.

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Curb imports, says Cal. labor

Foreign competition with American goods and American workers' jobs is often a matter of production abroad by American companies which have acquired foreign plants the California Labor Federation executive council pointed out.

The council, at its recent Los Angeles meeting, warned of the import danger and swung its weight behind Senate Bill 2592 by Indiana Democrat Vance Hartke and House Resolution 10914 by Congressman James Burke.

The measures would tax foreign operations of American firms sufficiently to discourage export of U.S. industrial technology and jobs and otherwise regulate imports.

The full Federation statement follows:

"During the past decade more and more foreign-made goods have flooded our domestic markets, eliminating U.S. jobs and contributing to the nation's severe balance-of-payments problem.

"U.S. corporations are busily exporting American jobs and technology and one domestic market after another has been taken over by foreign production.

"In many cases these producers are only foreign subsidiaries of U.S. multi-national corporations.

"Such basic products as typewriters, office machines, radios, television sets, toys, dinner-

ware, and bicycles, to name but a few, are now almost entirely produced abroad. In many other industries, such as textiles, automobiles, and electrical equipment, the situation is fast becoming critical.

"The old concept of 'free trade' is largely meaningless today. U.S. corporations are rapidly moving production abroad and foreign nations erect barrier after barrier to U.S.-produced goods, adopt preferential agreements, and provide government-sponsored subsidies and services to their exporters.

"American workers have seen their jobs disappear and living standards threatened. Yet the general public and many union members are unaware of the severe consequences to them and the national economy of the import floodtide.

"Congressional action is necessary to reshape U.S. tax and trade laws or our nation will deteriorate into a crippled, service economy suffering from the massive unemployment of production workers.

"Legislation to tax the foreign operations of U.C. corporations equitably, to stem the exporting of jobs and technology, to regulate the torrent of imports and to effectively stop foreign 'dumping' has recently been introduced in the Congress. The California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, strongly supports S. 2592 by Senator Vance Hartke and H.R. 10419

by Congressman James Burke and urges their enactment. We call upon each member of California's congressional delegation to become a sponsor of these bills.

"We believe S. 2592 and H.R. 10914 are of critical importance to our nation and pledge our unstinting effort to secure their congressional enactment and we are pleased to join with the National AFL-CIO in urging their adoption."

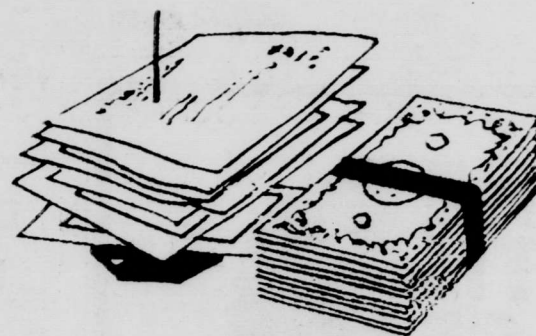
You may rate a disability refund

Workers who were employed by more than one employer in 1971, may have refunds coming on their payroll deductions for disability unemployment insurance.

Refund forms will be available after January 1 from local offices of the State Department of Human Resources Development or from the Central Office, Department of Human Resources Development, 800 Capitol Mall, Sacramento 95814. They must be filed by June 30.

Workers eligible are those who have earned more than \$7,400 in wages for two or more employers and whose disability insurance deductions were over \$74.

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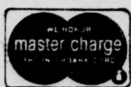
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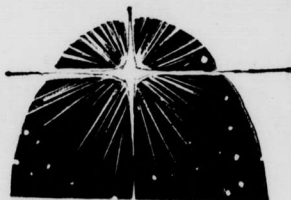
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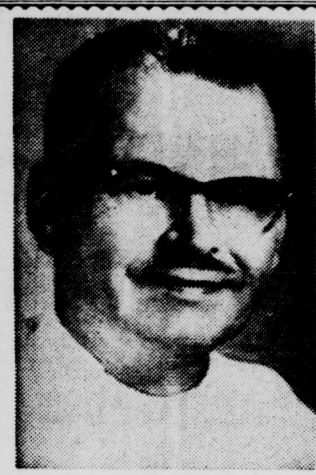
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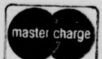
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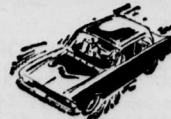
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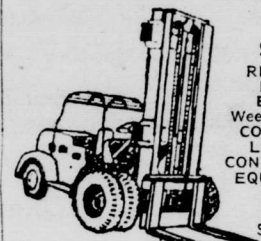
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Chips and Chatter

By Gunnar (Benny) Benonys

Brother Eric Lehto just returned from a successful hunting trip to Jackson, Montana. Shot a 700 pound elk, a four pointer. Weather was extremely cold with temperature down to 20 below at times. He took time to visit the Hot Springs to recover from the cold.

Wonderful news at the Harold and Linda Schmidt house these days. A lovely brand new daughter arrived at 2:58 p.m. on Thursday, December 16, 1971! "Mary Heather" weighed in at 7 pounds, eight and one half ounces and is 20 inches long. Mother and baby are doing just fine, thank you and father Harold is ecstatic with joy! What a wonderful Christmas it is.

RETIRED CARPENTERS CLUB. The initial meeting of over 35 retired carpenters, recently held at Local 1622's hall resulted in temporary officers being appointed and further meetings are scheduled.

Selected as Acting Chairman was Brother Gus Toensing (of 1622) while Larry Twist (of 1622) (278-4868) was selected as Acting Secretary and Ernie Crow (of 36) was selected as Bylaw Chairman.

The next organizational meeting will be held at Local Union 36 on Thursday, January 27, 1972, at 10 a.m., 8460 Enterprise Way, Oakland (569-3465). Remember the date. See you then, Brother.

Brother, this will be a Club devoted exclusively to retired members from any Bay Area Local union, not just 36 or 1622. Please plan to attend and take part in the initial formation and discussions. Your viewpoints and active participation are most earnestly sought. Be there, if only to visit and meet other retired members from other local unions.

State AFL-CIO sponsored legislation has been signed by the Governor. One bill increases the weekly unemployment from \$65 to \$75, effective some time in March, 1972.

A second bill increases the weekly disability benefits from \$87 per week to \$105.

Another bill increases the Compensation Death benefits upwards to \$28,000, an increase of \$5,000.

More on these and other new bills as we get the details.

Delayed thanks to Brother Clyde Niblett for his contributions of books to OPERATION PAPERBACK the past week.

Merry Christmas to all and a Happy and Prosperous New Year to all.

Looking forward to seeing you Brothers at the next union meeting which is a Special Called meeting to elect YOUR delegates to attend the coming State Council of Carpenters Convention.

Sheet Metal 216

By Bill and Fred

Hi fellas! Our Christmas Party was a glowing success. Those of you who didn't attend missed a good time.

Fifty very happy members won turkeys.

Jack Koenck and Jimmy Yee won tool boxes that were raffled off for the benefit of two deceased member's widows. We raised \$252.

We ran out of food, so next year we will have to double the order again. Each year we gain

in the number of members who attend. Try and join us next time, it will be time well spent.

Plans are in progress to have a picnic next summer. Don't miss it.

It has been suggested that we have two parties a year instead of one. Christmas and some time in June were suggested as dates, provided enough interest exists. I am sure the Executive Board will give it due consideration.

We're still carrying over 10 per cent of our members on the unemployed list. Let's hope next year brings an increase in jobs so our members can get back to work.

For those of you who might have missed it, our retirement age has been reduced to age 62 for normal retirement for working members who have vested, starting January 1, 1972.

A new school term will be starting in February 1972; let's fill those classes. Regular membership meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month, Labor Temple, 2315 Valdez Street, Oakland, California at 8 p.m.

Members of the Tri State Death Benefit Fund, Death Assessment 713 is now due and payable.

Steamfitter Notes

By Jim Martin

With the passing of 1971 and looking forward to next year, Business Representatives Doyle Williams and Bob Beeson and the writer wish to extend to you and yours best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, also good health and happiness.

In behalf of Doyle, Bob and our office employees, I wish to take this opportunity to thank the Officers and membership for their support and cooperation in helping us to carry out our duties.

Also, we wish to pay our respects to those who have passed on this past year and we offer this prayer:

"O God, Who has called hence the souls of our brethren who have departed this life during the past year and Who alone knowest the secrets of each heart, with all its trials, sorrows and temptations; we beseech Thee to have mercy upon them, and also upon all those, our brothers, who have gone previously; pardon each sin that they have committed and give them rest, light and peace in Thy everlasting kingdom; all of this we beg through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ, Thy Blessed Son, our Lord. Amen."

Those members who have passed on are: Albert W. Nix, Madison C. Ames, Gerald L. Des Laurier, Harry Buffington, Earl H. Haney, James F. Aalfs, Persell S. Wilder, Robert E. Luby, Everett L. Delashaw, Thomas L. Tinder, Paul McDermott, David M. Baker, Norman W. Iverson, Lawrence L. Schwab, Harry A. La Rue, Anthony J. Madison, Grover Matthews, John H. Nelson, James L. Nicholson, Walter Cribbs, Jackson Butler, Ben R. Warfel, Jack Stuart, Clinton D. Moser, Kenneth S. Bickel, William M. Bodenheimer, Hans Schatte, Edward R. Whipple, Leonard Vinn, Daniel T. Kennedy, Harold M. Grever, Floyd Torey and Lester L. Smith.

We will be looking forward to seeing you at our next membership meeting to be held on January 6th, 1971 in our meeting hall in Concord.

Barbers 134

By Jack M. Reed

Brothers, this will be my last column of 1971 and I would like to make some observations as the year draws to a close.

If you read the newspapers, I am certain that you have noticed the influx of advertisements for styling heat combs.

The department stores and manufacturers have spent thousands of dollars on those big ads to get the public, your customers, to buy those gadgets just like they did on the men's wig fad.

I wonder how many of our shop owners took advantage of these promotions? I visited two shops that sold these grooming aids to their customers while I was there.

One of our brothers made Bill Fiset's column last week by selling gift certificates for haircuts.

Did this ever occur to you? Also there are some great grooming products available to you and that are not sold in drug stores or super-markets. These make Christmas presents or excellent gifts. All that is needed is a little introductory salesmanship. Try it. You'll like it.

I have received official notice that in phony phase 2, barbers can raise the price of their basic service by 5.5 per cent which means 16½ cents on a \$3 haircut. Thought you would like to know.

Brothers, some of you mail your dues in late every month. Any member who sends his dues in after the first day of the month for which they are due is NOT IN INSURANCE STANDING for that month.

Postmarks on all envelopes are kept and photostats are sent to the International as proof of invalid claims. It is just as easy to keep one month ahead as to be continually a few days behind and delinquent. Please take due notice.

There are definite signs of shorter hair styles from the reports I have received from communications with Locals across the United States and I predict that in 1972 we will see less creepy, less shaggy and shorter length hair. The leading stylists contend that the hair on the neck should now come down to the collar and NOT beyond or over the collar. In other words, the pendulum is starting to swing the other way and a few individualists are not going to stop it. Here is wishing you all a Healthy and Prosperous 1972.

Dental Technicians 99

By Leo Turner

Those coming under the technicians contract are now due to receive another 3 cents per hour increase under the cost of living clause of that contract. This will be retroactive to November 12. The representatives of Dr. Campbell advise me that they have checked this and that they are allowed to make it effective from November 1, even though that was in the wage freeze period. Letters to all the employers will be sent out this week asking them to put the increase into effect.

For the dental assistance and office personnel coming under our contract and who were due for increases based on length of service (after 6 months, one year and two years), and those whose increase was held up by the wage freeze, I would like

to now report that you will get these increases retroactive to the date that you would have normally received them. The 16½-cent across the board increase recently negotiated, should have been in your last check retroactive to November 15. We are still trying to get retroactivity for the period between October 1 and November 15. Anyone having any problem with regard to these increases should get in touch with me.

In behalf of your Officers and Executive Board, I would like to take this means of wishing all members a happy and joyous Christmas holiday.

Millmen's 550

By Arsie Bigby

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(Map available on request)

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For additional copies of this announcement, map of school location, or other details contact:

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You are entitled to a refund on your payroll deduction for disability unemployment insurance if:

1. You worked for two or more employers during 1971.
2. You earned more than \$7,400 in wages for work in California during 1971.
3. More than \$74 in deductions for disability insurance (either state or voluntary plan), were taken from you pay in 1971.

If all these conditions apply to you, you may claim a refund. Refund application forms will be available after January 1. Employees, employers, unions or accountants may obtain refund forms by requesting them from the Central Office of the State Department of Human Resources Development, 800 Capitol Mall, Sacramento, California 95814 or from any local office of the Department of Human Resources Development.

Refund claims must be filed by June 30.

You can obtain information concerning pay deductions, wages or other necessary data from paycheck stubs or from employers. Wages earned in other states than California should not be reported in refund claims.

Now: On behalf of all the officers and myself, we wish each and every one of you a Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year.

Watchmakers 101

By George F. Allen

Merry Christmas

from the
Officers and Staff of
your union

Ironworkers 378

BY DICK ZAMPA

As far as our contract goes we still can't tell you a thing. I know it sounds like a broken record. There is some talk, but nothing substantial. As soon as we hear, we will pass on the word. I have had quite a few calls pertaining to Friday the 24th being a holiday because of Christmas being on Saturday. Friday is a regular work day. If Christmas had fallen on Sunday we would have had Monday off, but it doesn't work in reverse. I would like to mention again that if your membership book is full of stamps and you need another one just send in an additional 50 cents when paying December dues or January dues and a note requesting a new one. We will be glad to process it. This will take 5 weeks from the time we receive it until you receive it back in the mail.

Listed below are the dues scheduled for 1972 excluding Honorary Members, which are a flat \$6 per month.

Dues & Working			
1972	Assessments		Total
Jan.	\$10.25	\$7.50	\$17.75
Feb.	10.25	6.00	16.25
Mar.	10.25	6.00	16.25
Apr.	10.25	7.50	17.75
May	10.25	6.00	16.25
	Incls.		
	Conv.		
June	14.00	Stamp	14.00
July	10.25	7.50	17.75
Aug.	10.25	6.00	16.25
Sept.	10.25	7.50	17.75
Oct.	10.25	6.00	16.25
Nov.	10.25	6.00	16.25
Dec.	10.25	7.50	17.75

Apprentice dues are \$9.75

We were saddened with the death of Brother Al Hunt, one of our long-time members and pensioners. Our sympathy is extended to family and friends.

The following is a list of some of our sick members: Ed Simpson, Larry Middleton, Ivan Cotman, Joe Hanzlick.

Remember the Friday night membership meetings have been reduced to one a month. It being scheduled for the 2nd Friday of each month. Our next regular meeting will be held Jan. 14, 1972.

Both myself and Bob McDonald would like to take this opportunity to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Remember to get the right information attend your Union Meetings and get it first hand.

Good grandpa

The Washington Post published this letter to the editor, December 5, with the heading "For a Good Grandfather:"

"You have put a lot of cartoons of George Meany in your paper. Most of them I did not like. And some of them were very funny. The reason I wrote you was because I am George Meany's granddaughter. He is a very nice man. And a very good grandfather. Ellen Lutz."

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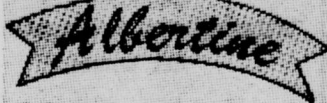
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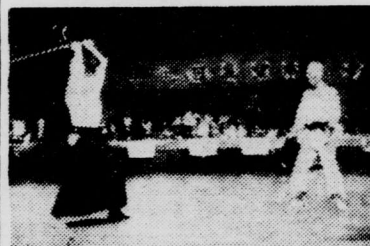
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Fraternally,
ESTELLA STEPHENS,
Recording Secretary

▼ ▼ ▼

Alameda Carpenters 194

The Monday, January 3, 1972 meeting will be a SPECIAL CALLED meeting to elect delegates to attend the forthcoming State Council of Carpenters convention to be held in San Mateo.

Carpenters Local 194 meets the first and third Monday evenings of the month at 8 p.m. in the Veterans Memorial Building, located at 2201 Central Avenue, Alameda.

Refreshments are served following the first meeting of the month in the Canteen for all present. You are urged to attend your Local's meetings.

Fraternally,
WM. "BILL" LEWIS,
Recording Secretary

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TED E. AHL,
Secretary

▼ ▼ ▼

U.C. Employees 371

Our next regular meeting will be held January 8th, 1972 at Room 155, Kroeber Hall, at 2 p.m., preceded by the Executive Board meeting at 12:30 p.m. Installation of the new officers will take place for the coming year. Coffee And Donuts after the meeting.

Fraternally,
J. J. SANTORO
Secretary-Treasurer

▼ ▼ ▼

Service Employees 18

General membership meetings of Service Employees Local 18 are held at 10 a.m. the 4th Saturday of each month in Jenny Lind Hall, 2267 Telegraph Avenue, Oakland.

SPECIAL NOTICE
Because the Christmas holiday falls on the fourth Saturday, there will be no general meeting in December.

Fraternally,
BEN J. TUSI,
Secretary

▼ ▼ ▼

Sheet Metal Workers 216

The regular meetings are every 3rd Wednesday of the month at 8 p.m. in the Labor Temple.

Fraternally,
FRED HARMON,
Business Manager

Carpet & Linoleum 1290

National Conference Deaths are now due and payable through NC 400. Also \$3.50 each is due for Brothers Bernie Lee and Gilbert Williams, both of whom passed away in October.

Fraternally,
BOB SEIDEL,
Recording Secretary

▼ ▼ ▼

Berkeley Carpenters 1158

Note—Starting with January 1, 1972, regular dues will be increased to \$13.

NOTICE

When sending in your dues by mail, please send to Wm. Mahaffey, 2315 Valdez Street, Room 220-A, Oakland, California 94612.

Regular meetings are held on the first and third Thursdays of each month at Flannish Brotherhood Hall, 1970 Chestnut Street, Berkeley, California.

Fraternally,
NICK J. AFDAMO,
Recording Secretary

▼ ▼ ▼

Barbers 134

The next regular membership meeting will be held at 8 p.m., Thursday, January 27, 1972 at the Labor Temple, 2315 Valdez Street, Oakland, California.

Installation of officers for 1972 will take place.

NOTICE

Please read the October issue of the Journeyman Barber for details of what will take place in January in regard to our Pension Fund.

NOTICE!

\$3 Legislative Assessment is due with your January dues. Please do not forget to include this assessment with your dues on or before January 1st 1972. Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Fraternally,
JACK M. REED,
Secretary-Treasurer

▼ ▼ ▼

Printing Specialties 678

Meeting second Thursday of the month at 8 p.m. in Cannery Workers Hall, 492 C Street, Hayward, California.

Fraternally,
WILLIAM PRENDEBLE,
Secretary

▼ ▼ ▼

A. Crafts and Trades 322

Regular meetings held first Thursday of each month at 8 p.m. in the Labor Temple, 2315 Valdez Street, Oakland, Room H, Third Floor.

Fraternally,
VERN DUARTE,
Financial Secretary

▼ ▼ ▼

Carpenters 36

The regular meetings for Carpenters Local Union 36 are held the first and third Thursdays of each month at 8460 Enterprise Way, Oakland, California 94621, at 8 p.m. Refreshments are served by the Ladies Auxiliary immediately following each meeting.

(2) The hours of the Financial Secretary's office are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Thursday. Friday the office closes at 1 p.m. Phone 569-3465.

(3) A special called meeting will be held on Thursday, January 6, 1972, for the purpose of nominating and electing four delegates to attend the fortieth annual convention of the California State Council of Carpenters to be held at the Villa Hotel in San Mateo, California, on February 15, 16, 17 and 18, 1972.

Please attend this meeting and vote for the candidates of your choice.

(4) Pursuant to Section 15, Paragraph (b) of the District Council By-Laws, the dues will be increased by \$1.00, as of January 1, 1972.

Fraternally,
ALLEN L. LINDER,
Recording Secretary

Biggest benefit boost in twelve years becomes law

Continued from Page 1

temporary disability benefit by \$17.50 a week, from \$87.50 to \$105. That is estimated to add \$10,300,000 in benefits for more than 40,000 temporarily disabled workers.

The new law also increases death benefits to totally dependent widows by \$5,000, from \$20,000 to \$25,000 for a widow alone and from \$23,000 to \$28,000 for a widow with one or more dependents. This will result in a \$3,600,000 increase in benefits.

The bills which are designed to redistribute permanent disability benefits to make higher benefits available to the more seriously injured workers, also shortens the retroactive waiting period for payments from 49 to 28 days. This improvement will result in an additional \$1,200,000 increase in benefits.

Millmen's Union 550

Members with 25 years of service will be honored this night.

At the special called meeting of November 19, 1971, the membership voted to join and participate in the 46-County Northern California Conference of Millmen & Industrial Production Carpenters Organization, which requires automatically a strike assessment from the membership of \$1 per month per member beginning January 1, 1972 and continuing through December, 1972.

Fraternally,
ODUS G. HOWARD,
Financial Secretary

▼ ▼ ▼

Hayward Carpenters 1622

SPECIAL CALL MEETING

At the regular meeting of Carpenters' Local 1622 on January 13, 1972 at 8 p.m., nominations and election of four delegates to the California State Council of Carpenters will be held.

The California State Council will convene at the Villa Hotel, San Mateo, California, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, February 15, 16, 17, and 18, 1972.

Brothers I urge you to come to your union meeting on January 13, 1972 and nominate and elect delegates to represent Local No. 1622 at the convention.

Attention Carpenters' Credit Union Members and Carpenters who should be Members!

On January 22, 1972 from 9 a.m. till 12 noon, a meeting of importance will be held in the small hall of the Labor Temple, 1050 Mattox Road, Hayward, California.

Andy will be glad to see you there!

Want to know what's happening? Come to your union meetings!

Regular meetings are held every second and fourth Thursday at 8:00 p.m. at the hall, 1050 Mattox Road, Hayward, California.

Pay your dues at the Financial Secretary's office. It is open at 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. On Thursday 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Friday 7:30 a.m. until 12 noon.

Members who move should inform the local union of their new addresses.

Fraternally,
CHARLES WACK,
Recording Secretary

Improvements in medical care benefits are now in effect, providing:

Prescription drug coverage for dependents of eligible carpenters on the same basis as presently applicable to the carpenter.

Prescription drug care for retired carpenters under 65 on the same basis as for the working eligible carpenter, and increase to \$100 in x-ray coverage for retired carpenters under 65. These apply to retired person only, not the wife.

Retirees 65 and over are covered by Medicare and are not continued under any other program.

As of January 1, 1972, dues will increase by \$1 per month.

Retired dues will remain as is.

Fraternally,
DELBERT BARDWELL,
Financial Secretary

Longshore talks resume as strike deadline nears

Continued from Page 1

Longshoremen's Association remained under Nixon's Taft-Hartley "cooling off," invoked in mid-December as the West Coast injunction was running out.

The ILWU struck for more than three months and was sent back to work as the IILA struck.

The rejected PMA offer was the same one that was on the bargaining table October 4 when Counts declared an impasse, setting the stage for the T-H injunction.

It contained 72 and 40-cent per hour pay increases in a two-year contract but without employer assurances of retroactivity to the previous contract date of July 1.

A major point of argument was management insistence on "capping" a wage guarantee provision, suspending it if a fixed fund to be set aside by employers ran out. The union wanted employers to be responsible for the guarantee for the life of a contract.

Provisions concerning container work also were a major item at issue.

Delegates seated

New delegates seated by the Alameda County Central Labor Council last week were Wray Jacobs, Leather, Plastic & Novelty Workers Local 31 and Norma Hall, Peralta Federation of Teachers Local 1603.

Nixon filling third seat on NLRB

John A. Penello, regional director for the National Labor Relations Board at Baltimore, has been nominated by President Nixon for a five-year term as a Labor Board member.

Penello, a Democrat, is the third Nixon nominee to the board. Previously, the President named two Republicans, Chairman Edward B. Miller and Ralph E. Kennedy. Other board members are John H. Fanning, a Democrat and Howard Jenkins Jr., a Republican.

Penello's confirmation would mean a board composed of three Republicans and two Democrats. He would succeed Gerald A. Brown.

Penello, who has been an

NLRB staff member since 1934, was once quoted as saying, "When we started, we hoped the agency would go out of business eventually. But it looks like it's here for many years to come."

Labor reporter dies

Frank C. Porter, the Washington Post's labor and business reporter and a longtime member of the Newspaper Guild died suddenly at the age of 53. He choked on food while dining in a Washington restaurant.

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EAST BAY LABOR JOURNAL



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45th Year, Number 41

December 24, 1971

JOHN M. ESHLEMAN, Editor

1622 East 12th Street, Oakland, Calif. 94606

Phone 261-3980

Season's Greetings and some suggestions

This is the time of year when the powerful of the earth—and the humblest—lay aside their day-to-day preoccupations, their angers and their fears and salute the idea of peace and goodwill.

In this we join wholeheartedly, wishing all our readers a very joyous Christmas, a happy holiday season and a prosperous and happy New Year.

But we wish the world were so arranged that it could speak and act for brotherhood the other 51 weeks of the year too.

It would be a great improvement if, for instance, the 2,000 union employees of the Los Angeles Hearst Herald-Express were working under secure union contracts instead of spending their fifth Christmas on the picket line.

Their Christmas card, sent to the unions and individuals who have supported their hard, four-year struggle, is reproduced at right—and its story is clear.

The point of that story is—"Peace on Earth to Men of Goodwill—and give to the Herald-Express strikers."

It would also be a warmer, happier Christmas if some 150 Newark, New Jersey teachers weren't facing the threat of spending the holiday in jail—for the crime of exercising their right to strike.

The moral of their plight is—"Peace on Earth to Men of Goodwill—and let's get collective bargaining laws for public employees."

This would also be a much happier Christmas if we did not have a national administration which allows prices to seep upward through loopholes in its "control" while doing its best to clamp rigidly down on wages.

An administration, it should be noted, which arrogantly violates lawful union wage agreements while leaving big profits alone.

And if we had a national administration truly committed to democracy instead of one which has placed an advocate of overwhelming government power over the individual on the Supreme Court.

The moral of the latter instances above is—"Peace on Earth to Men of Goodwill—and support COPE in 1972."

The plastic pipe dispute

The San Francisco newspapers have thoroughly oversimplified the issue of plastic building materials which has recently occupied that city's board of supervisors.

In headlines, labor has been solely credited with opposition to use of plastic pipe and plastic sheathed electrical cables, while the important opposition from contractors is down pedalled.

And that opposition has been billed as opposition to progress — another serious misapprehension.

It is, to be sure, the kind of progress on which the Nixon administration prides itself. The administration, which already has subsidized cheap labor-hiring prefabricated housing producers, now insists on cheap materials too.

But the administration says nothing about the serious deficiencies which union plumbers charge to plastic pipe.

They have produced data showing that, while it costs less, it wears less well than cast iron or terra cotta, cracking under stress which the other materials withstand.

They find it reacts to heat or cold and does not resist such common items in drainage as detergents and bleaches.

Mayor Alioto discloses that San Francisco was unable to get performance data from plastic pipe manufacturers. In a local plastic pipe dispute a 50-year guarantee for the product turned out to have a reimbursement limit of \$50—hardly a sign of overwhelming confidence.

The Nixon's administration's Housing & Urban Development Department, however, finds its cost to be the overriding consideration—not its utility.

At this writing, it seems that HUD's blunt threat to throttle San Francisco redevelopment unless the city accepts these materials will pay off—another example of the administration's habit of using muscle to get its way.

MERRY
CHRISTMAS
1971



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BE FAIR TO L.A.
HERALD-EXAMINER
STRIKERS



CHRISTMAS WISHES

We wish we could say it's all over,
We wish that we could, but we can't.
Our pickets still march on the sidewalks
While strikebreakers work in the plant.

Four years we have kept up the struggle
With help from our friends such as you.
We wish you a Merry Old Christmas
And thank you for past favors, too.

HERALD-EXAMINER JOINT STRIKE-LOCKOUT COUNCIL,
1058 South Olive, Los Angeles, Ca. 90015

Letters to the editor

Hand gun controls

Editor, Labor Journal

In regard to your article on page 5, Dec. 3rd issue of this year "Control Hand Guns—Control Violence;" I wish to make a few comments:

Your article I am sure does not represent, the rank and file of labor, that is to restrict or to prohibit the ownership or the use of handguns, or any other firearm, which is what you are saying.

Restriction of handguns, would lead only to the restriction of the shotgun and next the rifle.

We have all the laws, if they are enforced, necessary at present on the possession and use of handguns. Each such gun, to be legal, must be registered with the police department, cannot be a full automatic, and must not be concealed. What more could be asked for? Controls? We have them, just let the police enforce them.

By government reports, over 80 per cent of all felonies, including murders, where handguns were used, were committed by persons with police records, or ex-felons.

Over two years ago the California Fish and Game Commission made it lawful to hunt wild boar and wild bear, with three of our largest handguns; yet some people who do not hunt, and I would guess don't think of our American heritage at all, would try to restrict and further control something which has always been our right, as a good American citizen, that "to possess arms."

The INTENT to commit a felonious act does not mean that,

that act could not have been perpetrated with the use of a knife, a stick or a stone. Why then try to put "controls" on these lethal weapons? I say control the intent and you control the crime. These people are sick, so why should the millions of law-abiding people suffer with more federal controls.

I have been a good union member, and a subscriber to the E.B.L.J. for the last 30 years, and I say, your article of December 3, does not represent me or the rank and file of good unionism. I concur with Mr. Thompson, as of Dec. 17th in his views.

Respectfully,
CARL H. FRANCEE,
Steamfitters Local 342.

(The story referred to was a report of AFL-CIO convention action—Editor)

It's how you get it

Editor, Labor Journal:

I certainly enjoyed your column on "Hatred" as defined by our governor . . . Having seen the picture and the article that inspired your column my thoughts turned toward the meaning of another word, "moral" or "morals."

Obviously when our great governor castigates "the cheats on welfare" he does not establish that he himself has any great moral standards. All that he establishes is that he wants to save some of the taxes that he did not pay. In other words he can spot what he feels is a lack of morals in others, especially if they are poor and politically impotent. The important question is does our lead-

er have any moral scruples of his own?

The same article about which you wrote contained a picture which certainly depicts a rather low standard of morality, if indeed it does not show a complete lack of morality on the part of the guy. There he is in high good humor accepting a sweatshirt from the rather unhappy looking football player, which says: "Property of Chico State College." Morals are obviously something that you develop in stages from childhood on and here was a full grown man in the prime of his faculties accepting without a moral doubt entering his mind what was . . . taken as it were from the taxpayers of California and passed on to a non-taxpayer.

To compound this misdemeanor and complete lack of moral judgment was the decision to pass the sweatshirt on to the Reagan son. The comment of his mother being "He will be so proud of it." Thus the lack of moral judgment is to be passed along to schoolmates and buddies . . . as an object lesson to the children of welfare mothers that it isn't the taking that is bad. It is how you take it that is important.

Obviously when you take this small defection from moral standards and apply it to some of the larger things in life, you can understand oil depletion allowance, non-tax-paying, attacks on the poor and elderly, support of the war in Viet Nam, etc.

GEORGE C. SANDY,
Western Graphic Arts,
Local No. 14



PRICE MONITORING coalition of social action and community groups was proposed by the AFL-CIO. Proposal was offered by AFL-CIO Community Services Director Lee Perlis shown here with representatives of NAACP Leader-

ship Conference, National Council of Negro Women, Americans for Indian Opportunity, District of Columbia Spanish Community Action Advisory Committee, A. Philip Randolph Institute and National Urban League.

Cal Fed seeks public employee bargaining

Collective bargaining for public employees, consumer protection and extension of Industrial Welfare Commission protections to men top the California Labor Federation's program for the 1972 Legislature.

The legislative objectives were adopted at the Federation executive council meeting in Los Angeles which earlier had rapped President Nixon's "Phase II" economic program and called for "no fault" automobile insurance.

The executive council also elected Steelworkers District Director Frank S. McKee and Bennie Arellano, Ventura Laborers official, Federation vice presidents.

It adopted a strong statement against export of U.S. jobs by American companies investing in foreign production.

Its legislative program called for:

- Specific representation for labor on both the Workmen's Compensation Appeals Board and the Unemployment Insurance Compensation Appeals Board.

- Inclusion of tips as subject wages in jobless benefit computations for both unemployment and disability insurance programs.

- Extension of unemployment insurance to public employees, domestic workers, and employees of non-profit organizations.

- Extension of disability insurance benefits to include hospital confinement prescribed by doctors for pregnancy.

- Outlawing of the "deficiency judgment" in automobile sales. The practice, already forbidden in most other installment sales, allows a lender to repossess a car, sell it and still sue the defaulting buyer for the unpaid portion of his note.

- Assurance of free choice of physician by the worker in workmen's compensation cases.

- Extension of the State Industrial Welfare Commission's protective provision to male workers.

Public agencies, including courts, have ruled that such hours and working conditions protections for women violate "equality" under the Civil Rights Act because they do not apply to men.

- A hike in the state's current \$1.65 minimum wage to \$2 per hour.

- Amendment of the Safety Code to require a copy of the safety report to be furnished to the complaining party on re-

quest.

- Legislation to empower municipally-owned utilities to issue revenue bonds and enter into joint powers agreements to generate and transmit electrical energy.

It also approved a resolution to call on Congress to buy excess lands under the U.S. Reclamation Law's 160-acre limitation and to use the revenues resulting from their subsequent sale or lease for education and other social purposes.

- A law to require firms advertising in Spanish to provide sales contracts in Spanish.

- Legislation to prohibit tuition charges at the University of California and state college campuses.

The council called for a measure or measures to assure collective bargaining rights for elementary and secondary certificated teachers, for college and university professors, and for public employees other than those in those two categories.

The council also discussed the need for organizing of a statewide public employees coordinating council or department within the Federation to bring the diverse elements in the public employment field together.

Congress opens way for back raises

Congress took a strong hand in the economic stabilization picture, overruling President Nixon's pay board on retroactivity and challenging Nixon on a federal employees' pay raise.

In a one-year extension of the Economic Stabilization Act, sent to Nixon, Congress ordered retroactive payment of practically all pay and fringe benefit increases withheld during Nixon's 90-day "freeze" and denied by the pay board.

It also approved a 5.5 per cent raise for federal employees on January 1. Nixon had or-

dered the raise — previously voted for January — delayed six months so federal employees would be "an example" to everybody else.

In other areas, too, Congress expressed its concern at inequities and loopholes in the existing stabilization program.

Thus, it directed that interest rates be controlled whenever wages and prices are restricted — unless the President determines that it shouldn't be done and announces his reasons.

It authorized suits for triple

the amount of deliberate price overcharges.

And it insisted on Senate confirmation for the incumbent chairmen of the pay board and price commission.

Earlier, however, Nixon won in Congress when his veto of a historic child care service for working mothers survived a Senate attempt to override it.

AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Lane Kirkland called the veto "indefensible" and a "crass political action."

The vetoed bill would have authorized a multi-million dollar federal program for local-sponsored and operated child care programs with a full range of education, health and nutrition service.

"At the very time that Nixon is demanding that Congress pass a tax bill loaded with giveaways to giant corporations, he is denying federal help to the children of working people," said Kirkland.

Another major Congressional development was passage of a bill to add 13 weeks of unemployment benefits for workers in states with the heaviest unemployment.

If signed by Nixon, the measure will apply to states with 6.5 per cent joblessness, including California.

from the EDITOR'S CHAIR

Here's a green Christmas to you lucky old devils

Continued from page 1

money because I have here on my desk a couple of items I wish to handle one way or another and they are nothing if not money."

★ ★ ★

"HAPPY HOLIDAYS," I said, "to Texaco and Standard Oil of California."

"It is always nice," I went on, "to know that you will get your wish, which is why I am wishing these two organizations happiness."

He said, "Well I have to go now," which gets him out of the conversation so we can look at those two money-related items.

One is entitled "Texaco/Interim Report for the First Nine Months of 1971" and its cover is a striking color photo of a helicopter flying into a cloudy sunset sky over a forest.

Other than that, it is not illustrated except for a black and white photo of an oil rig in Ecuador.

★ ★ ★

BUT WHO needs pictures with such figures as these:

Net income for the first nine months of this year was \$658,591,000.

Net income for the first nine months of last year was \$569,471,000.

The difference is not stated, but with some effort I can subtract and I have found out that in the first three quarters this year Texaco made \$9,123,000 more than in the first three quarters of 1970.

Merry Christmas, Texaco, you lucky old devil.

★ ★ ★

THE OTHER money item is titled "A Report to Stockhold-

Meet set Jan. 27 for Carpenters retiree club

A second meeting to organize a Bay Area club for retired Carpenters members is set for January 27 at Carpenters Local 36's hall after more than 35 attended the first meeting and named temporary officers.

Acting chairman of the formative group is retired President Gustave Toensing of Local 1622. Former Recording Secretary and Financial Secretary Larry Twist, also of Local 1622, is acting secretary and former Local 36 Financial Secretary Ernest Crow is bylaws chairman.

They were named at a meeting December 13 at Local 1622's hall.

The club will be open to all retired persons in the Bay Area from any Carpenters local union.

Charter members urged all Carpenter retirees to attend the second meeting at 10 a.m., Thursday, January 27 at the Local 36 hall, 8460 Enterprise Way, Oakland.

Plastic pipe bid stalled in San Leandro

Continued from page 1

Hess said that the city council had appeared ready to go along with the Associated Home Builders and legalize the material.

But after the union protest, it put action over to January 17.

Hess gave the council data on tendency of plastic pipe to crack under stress, to react sharply to changes in temperature and failure to resist such common drainage material as detergents and bleaches.

ers" and it comes from Standard of Cal. It covers how well Standard made out in the third quarter this year.

Its cover is a color photo of an oil rig, fetchingly framed in what I take to be autumn leaves, since they are somewhat yellow. It has two other color photos and a map in color.

But leave us ignore the illustrations when we have these figures:

Net income 1971 third quarter, \$134,967,000.

Net income 1970 third quarter \$116,886,000.

Again the high-priced and very skilled public relations people who put out this type of report did not calculate the difference.

So I will. It seems that in the third three months of 1971, Standard made only \$18,081,000 more than in the same period of 1970.

★ ★ ★

STILL I SAY that's a pretty respectable amount and indicates what hard work, thrift, ingenuity and not having your profits frozen by the President can do to your profits.

So I say, Merry Christmas, Standard of Cal, you ingenious and unfrozen old devil, long may you crack gas out on Point Richmond.

My friend who suggested money for this column didn't leave. He stayed around talking to the lady in our front office, not too much worried about being laid off, since he too is hardworking and thrifty, although his wages are frozen.

"Yes," he said, "if I have to I'll take it out of the savings."

Which just goes to show you that he's a lucky man, since he has savings to take it out of when needed.

So I say to him, Merry Christmas, you laid off, frozen, lucky old devil, you.

Williams, Pontes named in vote by EBMUD union

Alton Williams was named president and Manuel Pontes secretary-treasurer, both without opposition, in AFSCME-East Bay Municipal Utility District Local 444's election.

Ray Ahern won in a four-man race for vice president. Joe Cox was elected second vice president without opposition. Named chief steward, also without opposition, was Ted Gray.

Winners in the contest for three seats on the executive board were Leon Freeman, Herbert Kitchen and Fred Drebot. Will Ester won the contest for sergeant-at-arms.

Pontes, former president, succeeds Charles E. Teixeira who did not seek re-election as secretary-treasurer.

Hospitals, union in new talks

Negotiators for 6,000 employees of 22 Bay Area hospitals met this week with management as the issue of strike or settlement still was unresolved.

Hospital administrators, who had not yet signed the agreement recommended by their bargaining representatives met separately Monday, then asked Hospital Workers Local 250 to meet with them late Tuesday.

Local 250 Secretary Timothy J. Twomey said he understood there was management worry over possible action of Presi-

dent Nixon's price commission.

Local 250 has asked Alameda County Central Labor Council Executive Secretary-Treasurer Richard K. Groulx and San Francisco Labor Council Secretary George W. Johns to release strike sanction which had been placed in their hands by the councils.

Any strike date, Twomey said, will be set by the Local 250 strike committee.

Eight of the 22 hospitals involved are in Alameda County.